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cated in the title. After a first chapter relating to the validity and scope of the "Act to regulate Commerce," there are several chapters discussing the several factors in rate-making, discrimination in rate-making, in billing and by other devices, the enforcement of the Interstate Commerce Act, by the Commission, and by the courts, and various matters pertinent thereto.

The "Act to Regulate Commerce" and amendments thereto are annotated with the decisions of the courts and the opinions of the Interstate Commerce Commission. All or portions of several other acts of Congress indirectly affecting commerce, are printed, and somewhat discussed, e. g., the twenty-eight hour law, the Sherman anti-trust law, the safety appliance acts. This part of the work is marred by frequent failure to distinguish, by mechanical devices, between the text of statutes and comment or annotation. The use of different types or of quotation marks would have spared the reader some unnecessary labor.

In his preface, the author says he decided "that where the state of authorities justified, the law should be given as nearly as might be in the language of the courts having final authority to announce the law." The book is not therefore to be judged as an original treatise or commentary. And such, in truth, it is not, for it consists in very large part of quotations from the sources above indicated. This will not, however, prevent its being very useful to shippers, carriers and their lawyers. It brings together in one place a large body of statute and judicial law relating to its subject, and this makes it a convenient manual of great usefulness. Despite a few misspellings and other inaccuracies, mostly typographical, the author has done the work indicated in his preface, with intelligence and fidelity.

H. M. B.

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A POCKET CODE OF THE RULES OF EVIDENCE IN TRIALS AT LAW. By John Henry Wigmore, Professor of the Law of Evidence in the Law School of Northwestern University. Boston: Little, Brown and Company, 1910, pp. liii, 566.

Any work in the law of evidence which comes from Prof. Wigmore must claim attention. This so-called "Pocket Code" is intended, in the language of its author, "to provide the practitioner with a handy summary of the existing rules of evidence and at the same time to state them in a scientific form capable of serving as a Code."

As all practitioners appreciate, there is no branch of the law as to which it is so necessary that his knowledge be immediately available as in this law of evidence.

So often is the necessity for the application of some rule of evidence unanticipated, and so often do the exigencies of the trial forbid particular investigation as to important and material questions in the law of evidence, that it is most important that knowledge of it be full and accurate and that the practitioner may readily refer to the authority on the subject. This being true the value of a book like this "Pocket Code" depends first upon

its being accurate and by a recognized authority and second upon the practitioner's familiarity with, and comprehension of it.

This "Code" follows in its treatment the larger work by the same author which has been so universally accepted by the profession and this is sufficient evidence of its accuracy and that it will be recognized by the profession generally as authoritative.

Its value therefore to any practitioner is to be proportionate to his effort to *know* the book. It is not too much to say that if he will, in connection with the larger treatise, familiarize himself with this book until he comprehends what is within its small compass he will know the law of evidence, and be able readily to point to the particular proposition on the authority of one to whom the court will listen.

V. H. L.